

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA)

**SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING NOTES**

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency, Salmon Room
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001
Wednesday, March 18, 2020
1:30 PM - Via Zoom Meeting

(NOTE: These notes are not intended to serve as a transcript or verbatim record of the proceedings of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council, but rather as a record of the meeting time, place, attendance, and the order and general nature of the Advisory Council discussion, deliberations, and actions taken, if any.)

Members/Alternates Present:

Patrick Geagan	-	Disabled Transit User (present in-person)
Theresa McCausland	-	Local Social Service Provider for Seniors (Non-Transp) (on-line)
Hallie Fonseca	-	Local Social Service Provider for Seniors (Transportation) (in-person)
Sou Saechao	-	Local Social Service Provider for the Disabled (Transportation) (on-line)
Anne Thomas	-	Shasta Living Streets (on-line)

Members/Alternates Absent:

Sharon Gatt	-	Transit User 60 Years of Age or Older
Elizabeth Duarte	-	Local CTSA Representative (Transportation)
Vacant	-	Local CTSA Representative (Administration)
Del Lockwood	-	Shasta County Opportunity Center
Holly Leaf	-	Shasta County Opportunity Center
Steve Smith	-	Help, Inc.
Robert Hale	-	Citizen
Susan Morris Wilson	-	Citizen
Christina Prosperi	-	Citizen

Members of the Public:

None

Staff Support:

Melissa Estrada	-	Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA)/City of Redding (on-line)
Kathy Grah	-	Caltrans, District 2 (on-line)
Mike Battles	-	Caltrans, District 2 (on-line)
Kathy Urlie	-	Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) (in-person)
Julie McFall	-	SRTA (in-person)
Dan Wayne	-	SRTA (in-person)
Sean Tiedgen	-	SRTA (in-person)
Jenn Pollom	-	SRTA (on-line)

1. Call to Order and Introductions:

2019 Chair Patrick Geagan called the meeting to order at 1:35 PM. Introductions were made.

2. Public Comment Period (Limit Three Minutes per Speaker):

No public comments were registered.

3. Election of 2020 Chair and Vice-Chair:

Hallie Fonseca nominated herself as Vice-Chair. Patrick Geagan nominated himself as Chair. With no other offered nominations, Anne Thomas made the motion to elect Patrick Geagan as Chair and Hallie Fonseca as Vice-Chair for 2020. Theresa McCausland seconded the motion, and the motion unanimously passed.

4. Update/Announcements:

- **ShastaConnect Sunday Transit Service**

Senior Transportation Planner Sean Tiedgen provided a status update on the service which began in October 2019. Currently serving approximately 94 riders per day, Sunday Transit is working towards the service goal of 125-155 riders/day. Since launch of the service 1,785 riders have been served so far. Chair Geagan stated that the service scheduling has changed a lot and it is difficult to contact DHCL staff to discuss. Sean advised for complaints to be logged with DHCL, the operator of the service, even if it means leaving detailed comments on their messaging system or emailing the service at ride@shastaconnect.org.

- **Salmon Runner Intercity Service**

Senior Transportation Planner Jenn Pollom noted that operations have been delayed for the service. SRTA applied for \$900,000 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311(f) operating assistance and a second Transit Intercity and Rail Commuter Program grant for additional capital funding. Also, SRTA applied for FTA Section 5339(c) funding over three million dollars for charging infrastructure.

- **SRTA Long-Range Transit Plan**

Senior Transportation Planner Dan Wayne reviewed the current project status, including a kick-off meeting with the consultant, a planned meeting with public agencies the first week of April, and forming a Project Advisory Committee. Direct outreach will also occur, and he asked for volunteers. Anne Thomas requested that the SSTAC be included in the direct outreach. Dan concurred and will forward emails to the SSTAC.

- **Beach Bus**

Senior Transportation Planner Julie McFall indicated that the National Park Service has agreed to issue weekly bus passes for the RABA Demand Response vehicles being used. The service will run from May 21 to September 5, 2020.

- **07-21-2020 North State Bus Expo**

Julie stated that this event will be held in conjunction with Creative Bus Sales and other transit vendors. A building at the Shasta District Fairgrounds will be rented. She requested input on technology and alternative fuel suggestions to include for the Expo.

5. Discussion and Action: 2020/21 Unmet Transit Needs (UTN) Process:

Senior Transportation Planner Dan Wayne referenced outreach comprising this year's effort. He summarized the past year's regional transit performance by noting that all public transit services were performing under required performance standards; therefore, no additional services are recommended at this time. The upcoming Long-Range Transit Plan could identify a new service recommendation(s). He mentioned an unmet transit need request from Providence International by Riverland Drive; Providence provides job training for at-risk adults. Chair Geagan expressed his support for the UTN survey length. Anne Thomas complimented the report; however, she questioned use of Affordable Housing and Strategic Communities (AHSC) funding for existing transit service—noting that the Crosstown Express AHSC commitment is supposed to be for service improvement, not to continue existing service. Dan

responded that AHSC was for transit passes, not transit operations and that he and colleague Sean Tiedgen would return to the grant application to verify its intended use. Dan completed his presentation noting that SRTA staff is recommending the following to the SRTA Board of Directors: continue Sunday service; operate a Beach Bus; and continue existing transit service. Vice Chair Hallie Fonseca motioned to accept the SRTA staff recommendations. Anne Thomas noted the strong interest in the Long-Range Transit Plan (LRTP) and suggested the motion could include support for the LRTP and future outcomes. Chair Geagan suggested focusing on the Unmet Transit Needs process, not future study potential outcomes. He seconded Hallie's motion. On a call for the vote, the motion passed four ayes to one no, with Anne voting no due to the recommendation not including the LRTP language.

6. Member/Agency Updates:

- RABA – Vice Chair Fonseca noted that the fare tracking system update in the RABA buses was accomplished over a three-day installation period, and that the transition is going well. Melissa Estrada reported that due to COVID-19, RABA has switched from a two times/week deep cleaning of buses and facilities to a daily morning deep cleaning. RABA indicated that they are incorporating rider and employee safety, as well as the consideration of essential services into their pandemic planning. All of this weighs into RABA potentially having to reduce and/or decrease service and routes. She announced RABA beginning a passenger fare study and a Short-Range Transit Plan (SRTP) update this coming year. She referenced the difference of SRTA's Long-Range Transit Plan (LRTP) and RABA's SRTP as the LRTP being a high-level planning document with RABA service being one component of the regional view. Melissa finished by pointing out that the new RABA Proterra electric bus needs a radio installation and then will be ready to be placed into service.

7. Items for Next Regularly-Scheduled SSTAC Meeting (9-16-2020):

- Unmet Transit Needs 2021-22 Process
- Sunday Transit Service Update
- Salmon Runner Intercity Service
- Long-Range Transit Plan Update
- Beach Bus Recap

8. Adjourn:

There being no further business to discuss, Chair Geagan dismissed the meeting at 2:41 PM.